

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8811

S E C R E T CAIRO 13013

NODIS

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR AO EG

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR FAHMY RE ANGOLA

REF STATE 303327

1. I SAW FAHMY THIS AFTERNOON TO DISCUSS ANGOLA. HE ASKED MINSTATE MOHAMED RIAD TO BE PRESENT, SINCE RIAD WILL REPRESENT GOE AT UPCOMING OAU FONMIN'S MEETING. I WENT OVER THE POINTS CITED IN REFTEL IN SOME DETAIL. I CONCLUDED WITH STRONG PITCH THAT GOE USE ITS INFLUENCE BEFORE THE OAU MEETING TO PREVENT FURTHER AFRICAN RECOGNITION OF MPLA AND TO WORK WITH OTHER LIKE-MINDED AFRICAN STATES TO ACHIEVE AN OUTCOME FROM OAU MEETING THAT WILL INVOLVE A CONSENSUS FAVORING A CEASEFIRE, STOPPAGE OF OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE, WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN INTERVENTION AND AN OAU MECHANISM TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE THREE ANGOLAN FACTIONS LOOKING TOWARD THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.

2. FAHMY RECALLED YOUR PERTINENT DISCUSSION WITH SADAT AND HIM IN WASHINGTON IN WHICH EGYPTIAN SUPPORT HAD BEEN PROMISED FOR MOBUTU. HE EMPHASIZED THIS GOE COMMITMENT PERSISTS. FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY, ZAIRIANS HAD RECENTLY REQUESTED "PHYSICAL

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HELP" FROM GOE. SADAT HAD OFFERED SOME MILITARY

EQUIPMENT AND SENT SENIOR EGYPTIAN OFFICER TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH MOBUTU. IN KINSHASA, HOWEVER, EGYPTIAN OFFICER HAD FOUND THAT ZAIRIANS ARE UNABLE TO HANDLE THE EQUIPMENT AND HAD ALSO REQUESTED EGYPTIAN MILITARY PERSONNEL TO MAN IT. THIS, GOE IS UNABLE TO DO SINCE PART OF ITS TERRITORY IS STILL OCCUPIED. IT CONTINUES, HOWEVER, TO SEARCH FOR WAYS TO HELP MOBUTU.

3. FAHMY AGREED FULLY THAT THIS IS AN AFRICAN PROBLEM REQUIRING AN AFRICAN SOLUTION. HE WANTED YOU TO BE ASSURED THAT GOE WILL WORK TO ACHIEVE A CONSENSUS IN FAVOR OF A CEASEFIRE, STOPPAGE OF ALL FOREIGN INTERVENTION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF OAU MECHANISM TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE THREE FACTIONS TO ESTABLISH A NATIONAL GOVERNMENT. THIS MIGHT INVOLVE CONCILIATION MISSION OF SOME AFRICAN CHIEFS OF STATE. SADAT WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE SINCE HE DOES NOT HAVE THE TIME. GOE WILL ALSO SEEK TO PREVENT FURTHER RECOGNITION OF MPLA CONFERENCE. HERE, RIAD INTERVENED TO SAY GHANA HAD JUST RECOGNIZED MPLA, MAKING A TOTAL OF 20. WHEN FAHMY NOTED THAT THIS STILL LEAVES 26 STATES THAT HAVE NOT RECOGNIZED MPLA, RIAD POINTED OUT THAT THESE 26 ARE DIVIDED AMONG THEMSELVES.

4. RIAD RECOUNTED A MEETING WITH SEVERAL AFRICAN AMBASSADORS LAST EVENING IN WHICH THE LATTER HAD SPOKEN OF AN ATTEMPT THAT MAY BE MADE TO SEAT THE MPLA AT THE UPCOMING OAU FONMINS' MEETING AS THE LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA. HE WAS CONCERNED THAT THIS MIGHT BE HARD TO RESIST WITH 20 VOTES IN FAVOR AND THE REST SPLIT. FAHMY NOTED THAT ANY ATTEMPT TO DO SO COULD SPLIT THE WHOLE OAU AND INSTRUCTED RIAD TO MAKE THIS POINT AS NEEDED IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE SEATING OF THE MPLA. RIAD ALSO THOUGHT THE PRO-MPLA STATES WILL TRY TO ARGUE AGAINST A CEASEFIRE ON THE GROUNDS THAT NO ONE CAN STOP THE RECOGNIZED NATIONAL AUTHORITIES FROM UNDERTAKING PACIFICATIONS MEASURES. FAHMY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT SUCH A PLOY MIGHT BE ATTEMPTED, BUT TOLD RIAD TO ARGUE THE CASE THAT A CEASEFIRE NEEDED FOR PREVENTING AFRICANS FROM KILLING AFRICANS.

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5. FAHMY WANTED TO KNOW EXACTLY WHAT WE HAVE DONE IN ANGOLA. I TOLD HIM I WOULD INQUIRE AS TO THE DETAILS. RIAD ASKED IF WE HAVE ANY ASSESSMENT OF THE PRC ROLE. ALTHOUGH THE PRC HAS RECOGNIZED MPLA, HE THOUGHT THERE MIGHT STILL BE ENOUGH CHICOM CONCERN OVER A POSSIBLE SOVIET SUCCESS AND THAT THIS COULD BE A USEFUL CARD. HERE AGAIN, I TOLD HIM I WOULD INQUIRE

WHAT OUR ESTIMATE IS.

6. FAHMY INDICATED HE WOULD INFORM SADAT OF OUR
TALK AND AGREED WE SHOULD KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH. RIAD WILL NOT
LEAVE FOR ADDIS UNTIL AROUND JANUARY 7, WHICH SHOULD
ALLOW TIME BETWEEN NOW AND THEN FOR FURTHER CONSULTATIONS.
FAHMY CONFIRMED THAT VP MOBAREK RATHER THAN SADAT WILL
REPRESENT GOE AT OAU CHIEFS OF STATE MEETING.
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